

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1-5 and 7-18 are rejected. No claims or new matter have been added. Claims 1, 16 and 18 were amended. Claims 1-5 and 7-18 remain pending. Reconsideration of the claims is requested in light of the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103Lin in view of Bloomfield and further in view of Crager: Claims 1-18

Claims 1-5 and 7-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,881,064 to Linn et al (“Lin”) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,693,729 to Bloomfield (“Bloomfield”) and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,058,838 to Crager (“Crager”).

Independent claims 1, 16, and 18 were amended to include the limitation that fax information is received from a first fax machine *over a public switching telephone network*. This limitation clarifies that by operating the error correction over the public switching telephone network, that excessive loading of the packet network is limited as disclosed in the specification. Applicants respectfully believe this limitation makes claims 1, 16 and 18 patentably distinguishable over the prior art.

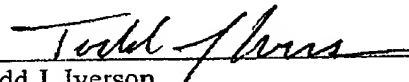
Claims 2-5 and 7-15 depend from claim 1, and claim 17 depends from claim 16. Since dependent claims necessarily contain the same limitations of claims from which they depend, applicants submit that claims 2-5, 7-15, and 17 are also patentably distinguishable over the prior art.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-5 and 7-18 is requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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